

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: 31 March 2009

Announcing the inaugural Impact Awards and call for entries

New award scheme to recognise and celebrate the success of knowledge transfer opens for entries

Nominations are invited for The Impact Awards, a new award scheme designed to recognise and celebrate the success of knowledge transfer. The Impact Awards are open to all sectors of research that have made an outstanding impact through successful knowledge transfer. The Impact Award categories include:

- Business Impact Award
- Environmental Impact Award
- Public Policy and Service Impact Award

The Impact Awards will raise awareness of the potential of knowledge transfer activities by demonstrating best practice and impact. Organised by Unico (the UK's leading knowledge transfer membership association), The Impact Awards will showcase the very best examples of knowledge transfer activity.

Professor David Secher, Unico Chairman, said, "Innovation is the life blood of the economy. Knowledge transfer helps institutions and organisations to identify the commercial applications of innovative research. If you are involved in innovations that have benefited from knowledge transfer activities we would like to hear about them."

To enter The Impact Awards and to have an opportunity to showcase projects to peers, opinion leaders, potential collaborators or partners, entrants must register their submission online at www.impactawards.org.uk. The deadline for entries is 1 May 2009.

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The University Companies Association | St John's Innovation Centre | Cowley Road | Cambridge CB4 0WS

Tel 01223 422098 Fax 01223 420844 Email info@unico.org.uk

www.unico.org.uk

After the closing date, a judging panel will select winners in each category. Winners will be announced at The Impact Awards ceremony, held at the Unico Conference Gala Dinner, Brighton Racecourse, on Thursday evening, 11th June 2009.

Full details of the award categories, entry criteria and process can be found at The Impact Awards web site www.impactawards.org.uk, or email info@impactawards.org.uk, or call 01223 422085.

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For further information:

Unico

Lee Willmott

Communications Officer

Unico

Tel: +44 (0)1223 422085

lee.willmott@unico.org.uk or info@impactawards.org.uk

Notes to Editors

1. Unico is the UK's leading Knowledge Transfer membership association. Unico members realise the potential of university and public sector research through commercialisation.

2. Categories are sponsored by:
 - Business Impact Award – *BDO Stoy Hayward LLP, UK member firm of BDO International, the world's fifth largest accountancy network*
 - Environmental Impact Award – *Praxis Courses Ltd, providers of inspirational training courses for knowledge transfer and commercialisation professionals*
 - Public Policy and Service Impact Award – *Research Councils UK, the strategic partnership of the UK's seven Research Councils*

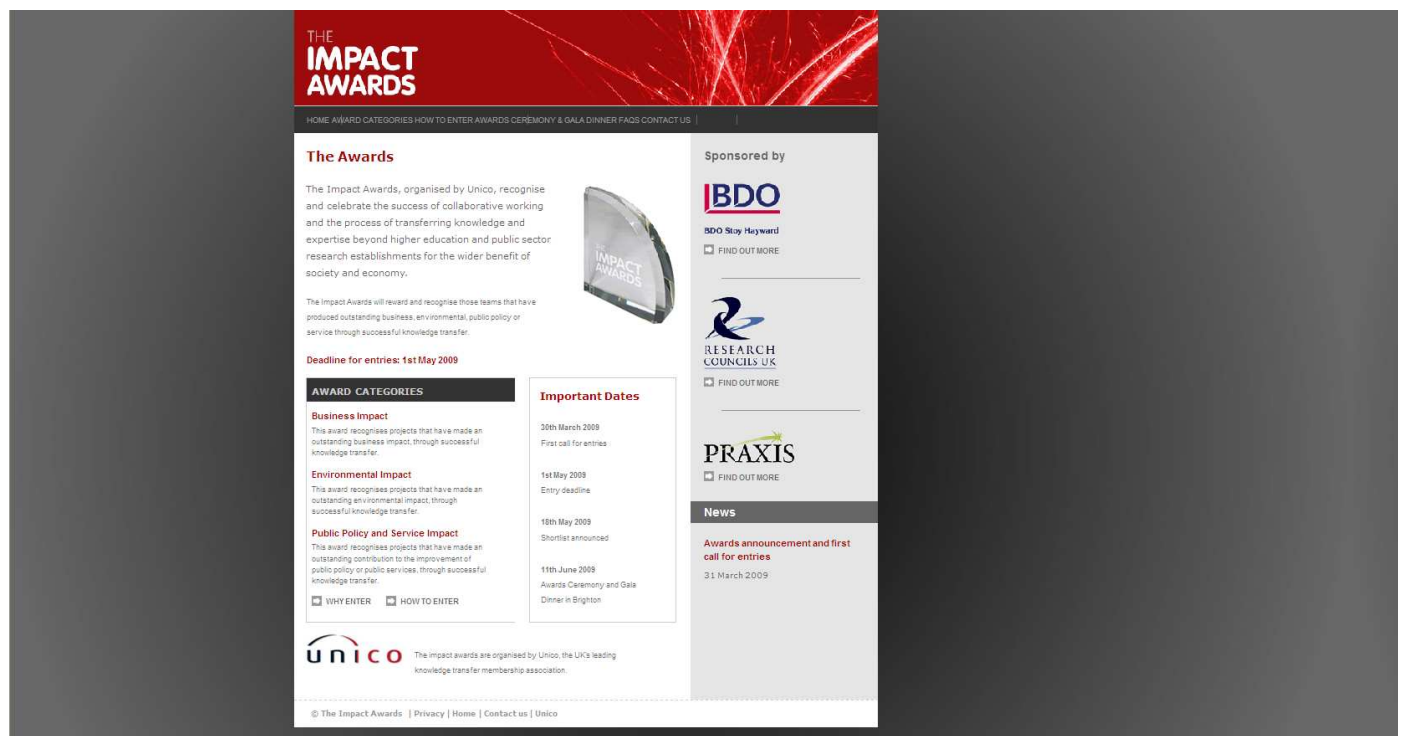
Images

The following images are available.

The Impact Awards logo

THE IMPACT AWARDS

The website



The screenshot shows the website for The Impact Awards. The header features the text 'THE IMPACT AWARDS' in white on a red background. Below the header, there are navigation links: 'HOME', 'AWARD CATEGORIES', 'HOW TO ENTER', 'AWARDS CEREMONY & GALA DINNER', 'FAQS', and 'CONTACT US'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- The Awards:** A paragraph describing the awards, followed by a photo of an award trophy. Below this is the text: 'The Impact Awards will reward and recognise those teams that have produced outstanding business, environmental, public policy or service through successful knowledge transfer.' and the 'Deadline for entries: 1st May 2009'.
- AWARD CATEGORIES:** A list of three categories: 'Business Impact', 'Environmental Impact', and 'Public Policy and Service Impact', each with a brief description.
- Important Dates:** A list of key dates: '30th March 2009 - First call for entries', '1st May 2009 - Entry deadline', '18th May 2009 - Shortlist announced', and '11th June 2009 - Awards Ceremony and Gala Dinner in Brighton'.
- Sponsored by:** Logos for BDO, BDO Stoy Hayward, and Research Councils UK, each with a 'FIND OUT MORE' link.
- PRAXIS:** Logo with a 'FIND OUT MORE' link.
- News:** A section titled 'Awards announcement and first call for entries' dated '31 March 2009'.

At the bottom, there is a UNICO logo and the text: 'The impact awards are organised by Unico, the UK's leading knowledge transfer membership association.' and a footer with links: '© The Impact Awards | Privacy | Home | Contact us | Unico'.